GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4356
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2001
GANGA WATER FOR IRRIGATION
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Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated availability of water flowing in Ganga river;

(b) the quantum of water being utilised for irrigation and industrial purposes, separately;

(c) the quantum of water going waste into the sea; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to make optimum use of water of Ganga river?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI)

(a) The estimated annual availability of water flowing in Ganga river is 501.6 Billion Cubic Metres (BCM).

(b) During the year 2000, the utilization of water was estimated to be 150.8 BCM for irrigation, 7.9 BCM for domestic use and 5.9 BCM for industrial use.

(c) & (d) The unutilized water is presently going waste to the sea mainly during the Monsoon season. The Ministry of Irrigation (now Ministry of Water Resources) and the Central Water Commission have formulated a National Perspective Plan for water resources development which envisages inter linkages among the various Peninsular rivers and among the Himalayan rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins for optimum utilization of water resources. The Plan envisages 17 water transfer links under the Peninsular rivers development component and 14 water transfer links under the Himalayan rivers development component. The National Water Development Agency, established in July, 1982 as an Autonomous Society to inter-alia carryout the water balance and feasibility studies of water transfer links, has completed the pre-feasibility studies of all the links and feasibility reports of five water transfer links.